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## *Hope Church, Mount Hope.*

By William Frederic Worner.

What an image of peace and rest,  
Is this little church among its graves  
All is so quiet; the troubled breast  
The wounded spirit, the heart oppressed  
Here may find the repose it craves.

—LONGFELLOW

Israel G. Erb, in the chapter on Penn township, which he contributed to Ellis & Evans' History of Lancaster county, published in 1883, says that "the Episcopal church at Mount Hope was principally erected for the Grubb family at that place, not many years ago." With the exception of this brief statement, he gives no information as to its origin, its history or the influences for good it has exerted upon the inhabitants of Mount Hope estate and vicinity. As no complete history of this, the most northern Episcopal parish in Lancaster county, has ever been published, a brief sketch of Hope church and the events associated with its history, chronologically arranged, may prove of interest.

The first service of which there is authentic record, at Mount Hope, was held June 3, 1818, at which time Bishop William White baptized Clement Brooke Grubb in the historic old mansion built by Henry Bates Grubb in 1800. The Right Rev. Dr. White was the first bishop consecrated for the American Church at Lambeth Palace, England, February 4, 1787. It was necessary to obtain the consent of the British Parliament before he could be elevated to the Episcopate. In addition to his many duties as bishop of the diocese of Pennsylvania, which at that time included all the territory west of the Delaware river, he was also rector of Christ P. E. church, Philadelphia, where he is interred before the chancel rails. Christ church was at that time, perhaps, the largest parish in America. If I seem to place undue importance upon his visit to Mount Hope, it may be overlooked when we consider that he lived in an age when railroads were practically unknown, and travel was by stage coach or on horseback, over roads that bore little resemblance to the fine highways of to-day. Bishop White held that confirmation was not the most important function of a bishop, and only once was he known to cross the Allegheny mountains to administer that rite.

Bishop White kept no diary or other record of his official acts, hence it is not known, definitely, how often he visited the parishes in this part of his large diocese. From the several parochial records still in existence, we learn that he made no less than eleven official visits to the churches in Lancaster county.

Thirty years after Bishop White visited Mount Hope Furnace, the little edifice now known as Hope church was erected. It was founded by Mrs. Harriet Amelia Buckley Grubb, widow of Henry Bates Grubb, one of the owners of the famous Cornwall iron hills and the Mount Hope furnace. After the death of her husband and during the minority of her children, Mrs. Grubb was mistress of the Mount Hope estate and manager of the charcoal furnace. After her children had assumed control of the property that had descended to them, Mrs. Grubb moved to her winter home in Philadelphia. Desiring to do something for the moral and spiritual uplift of the tenants on her estate and the employees of the Mount Hope furnace,

whose welfare she had so much at heart, she erected the little sandstone church.

The foundations were laid in the summer of 1848. The building was delayed owing to a misunderstanding between builder and workmen, and, for awhile, the bare walls alone were standing. The roof was added later. The following year the structure was completed. October 9, 1849, the Right Rev. Dr. Alonzo Potter, bishop of the diocese of Pennsylvania, consecrated Hope church to the worship of Almighty God, according to the rites of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States of America. An attempt was made to call the building Christ church, but Mrs. Grubb insisted that it be known as Hope church, and this name it has retained to the present.

The first vestry consisted of Edward B. Grubb, Clement B. Grubb, Alfred B. Grubb, Edward Shippen, M. Brooke Buckley and — Arms. Mr. Arms dying shortly after, William Boyd was elected to his place.

Hope church was admitted into union with the convention of the diocese of Pennsylvania in 1849. Bangor church, Churchtown, founded about 1729, and St. James' church, Lancaster, organized in 1744, are the only pre-Revolutionary parishes in Lancaster county. Christ church, Leacock, was organized in 1818; All Saints, Paradise, in 1841; St. Paul's, Columbia, in 1848; and Hope church, Mount Hope, in 1849. Hope church is, therefore, the sixth in order of the Episcopal churches organized in Lancaster county.

The Rev. Daniel Washburn was the first missionary of Hope church. While Mrs. Grubb resided in Philadelphia, she attended St. Luke's church, of which the Rev. Mark Anthony DeWolfe Howe was then the rector. His curate was the Rev. Daniel Washburn, who had been the tutor of Bishop Potter's sons, and a lawyer by profession. He was made deacon in December, 1848. The following year he was sent to Mount Hope. He officiated from the fall of 1849 until June of the next year. He was supported by the same generous heart that was moved by God to found Hope church to His honor and glory and to the good of immortal souls.

The Rev. George Herbert Walsh was admitted to the sacred order of Deacons in Trinity church, Oxford, June 30, 1850. During the three months following his admission to the Diaconate, he served as the second missionary of Hope church. After his resignation, the church was without regular services until 1855, when Alfred M. Abel, then a candidate for Holy Orders from St. Luke's church, Philadelphia, acted as lay-reader from July until September of that year. During the summer, a very efficient day school was established and conducted by Mr. Abel. He was ably assisted by the ladies who visited Mount Hope mansion during that summer.

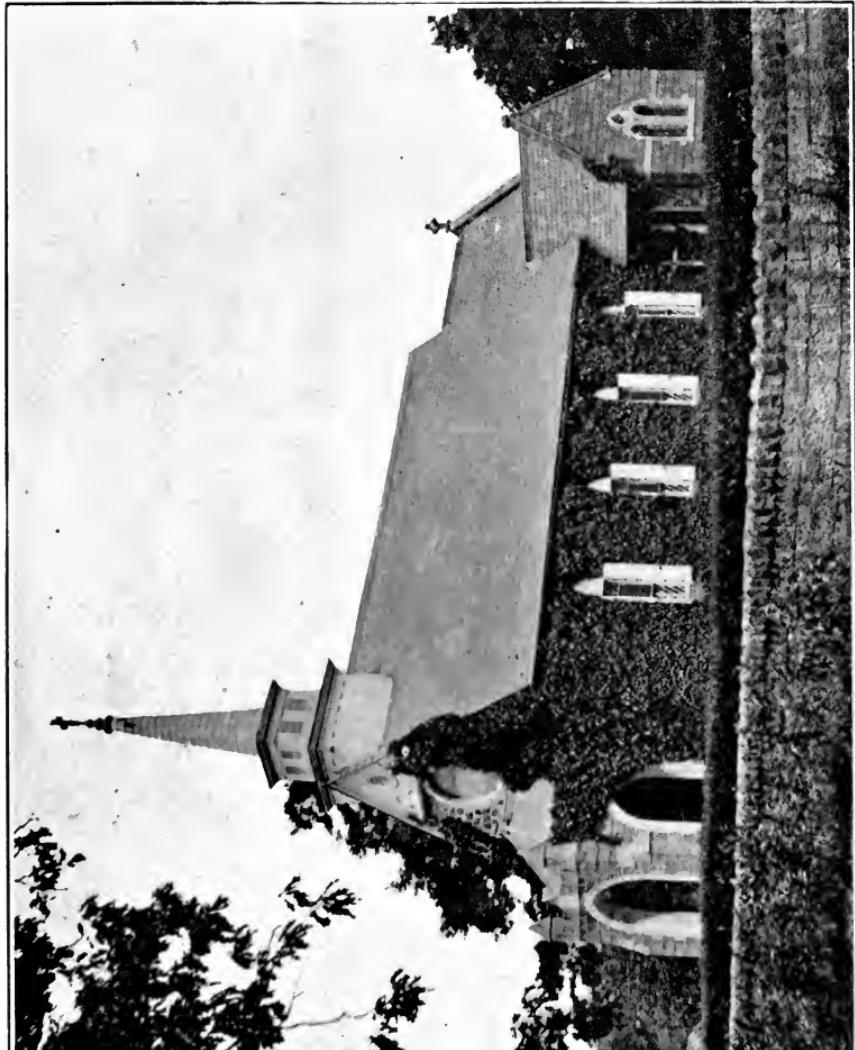
The Rev. Mr. Howe, of St. Luke's church, Philadelphia, visited Hope church June 21, 1855, and administered the sacrament of Holy Baptism to six candidates. He subsequently became bishop of the diocese of Central Pennsylvania.

A bell presented to Hope church in summer of 1855 by Clement B. Grubb, is still in use. The cross on the steeple was erected about the same time. It was also presented by him.

The Rev. Dr. Samuel Bowman, rector of St. James' church, Lancaster, Pa., officiated in Hope church Sunday, September 9, 1855. He was elevated to the Episcopate August 25, 1858, in Christ church, Philadelphia.

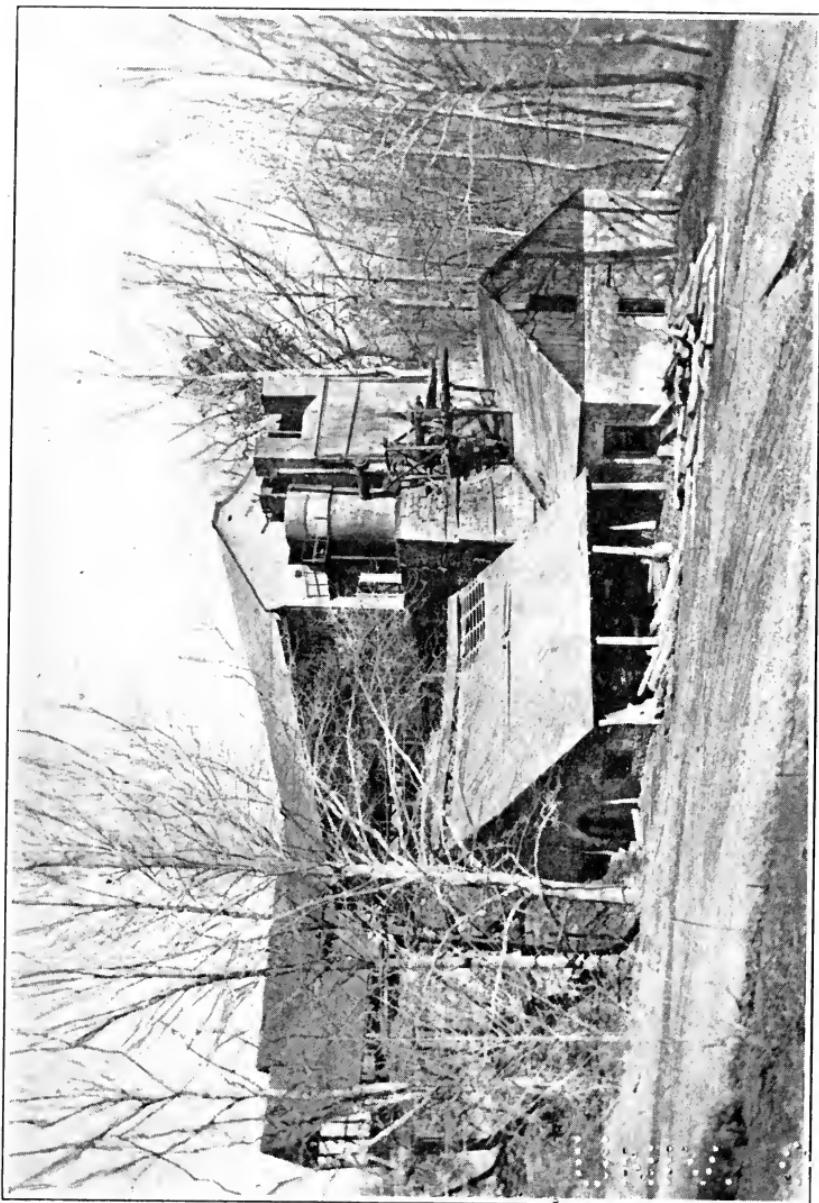
On the morning of Sunday, September 16, 1855, the Holy Communion was celebrated for the first time in Hope church, the Rev. Edward Purdon Wright, rector of old St. John's church, Pequea, Pa..

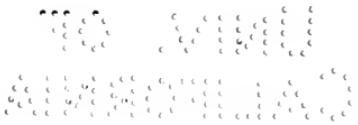
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HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MOUNT HOPE, PA.

MOUNT HOPE FURNACE





being the celebrant. He preached, and administered the sacrament to four communicants. In the afternoon of the same day he preached at vespers and baptized two children.

In the summer of 1856, lay services were again conducted by Mr. Abel, from the 8th Sunday after Trinity, which occurred on July 13, until the 18th Sunday of the same season, September 21, 1856. The parish day school was re-opened and continued, as well as the Sunday school.

Trinity Sunday, June 7, 1857, Mr. Abel was admitted to the Diaconate, and was sent by Bishop Potter to Hope church, with instructions to break ground, if possible, for church services in Lebanon, Pa., ten miles to the north of Mount Hope. The first service according to the Book of Common Prayer, held in Lebanon, took place Sunday, November 8, 1857. Regular services were also begun at Colebrook Furnace, now known as "Old Colebrook," eight miles from Mount Hope, Sunday, November 15, 1857.

Beginning with the 2nd Sunday after Trinity, June 21, 1857, regular services were maintained at Hope church. The Sunday school and the parish day school were continued. During a part of the time two adult Bible classes, for men and women, were successfully taught.

During the summer and autumn of 1857, Mrs. Mary Shippen Parker erected a stone schoolhouse for the parish. This building is still standing, and is situated opposite the Mount Hope railroad station. It is no longer used for parochial purposes. A few years since it was converted into a gardener's cottage.

In the spring of the following year, Hope church met with a serious loss in the death of its founder and patron, Mrs. Harriet Amelia Buckley Grubb, who died in Philadelphia March 29, 1858. Her mantle fell on the shoulders of her daughters, Mrs. Mary S. Parker and Mrs. Sarah Ogilvie, who continued her interest in Hope church. Like their generous-hearted mother, this interest ceased only with their death.

From the beginning of November, 1858, services were held in Hope church on Sunday mornings only, the clergy of Hope parish being engaged in ministering to the neighboring missions at Lebanon and Colebrook Furnace.

The Apostolic Rite of Confirmation was administered for the first time in Hope church, the 7th Sunday after Trinity, — August 7, 1859, — by the Right Rev. Dr. Samuel Bowman. There was but one candidate.

By the year 1860 the church at Lebanon, Pa., had grown to such an extent, that the Rev. Mr. Abel found it expedient to establish a residence in that town. From this date the rectory was located in Lebanon. However, Mr. Abel continued in charge of Hope church, and maintained regular services in it, chiefly on the afternoons of Sundays and on the Saints' Days occurring during the week.

The Rev. Gustavus M. Mayer was assigned as curate to Mr. Abel in 1861. He officiated at the first Episcopal service conducted in Manheim, Pa. From 1861 until 1869 special efforts were made to maintain services in Hope church. There was some interruption in their frequency and regularity during the winter and spring months of 1867 and 1868. Each summer from 1861 to 1869 services were conducted for about two and one-half months by students from the Philadelphia Divinity school. The Rev. Otto H. Fryer was the curate during a part of this time.

In 1869, St. Paul's parish, Manheim, Pa., a daughter of Hope church, was organized by Brinton White, a great-grandson of Bishop William White.

The Rev. Aaron Bernstein, priest-in-charge of St. Paul's church, Manheim, officiated in Hope church from July 10, 1870, until he resigned the rectorship of the former parish February 1, 1871. He served in the capacity of an assistant, as the Rev. Mr. Abel still directed the spiritual affairs of Hope parish.

Without disparagement to any, it may be stated that the Rev. Mr. Bernstein was, undoubtedly, the most erudite priest that ever officiated in Hope parish church. He was born in Skalat, Galicia, in 1841, of Jewish parentage. He became a convert to Christianity in 1863. After leaving Hope church, he was sent as a missionary to Jerusalem; subsequently he labored in several large cities in Europe. He was a prolific writer; besides being the author of a number of books, he wrote many tracts, and in 1895 revised an edition of the Hebrew Bible.

He was succeeded by the Rev. William S. Heaton, who also served as Mr. Abel's assistant in Hope church. Mr. Abel presented his resignation to the vestry June 27, 1871. It was accepted, and Mr. Heaton was elected rector. He assumed control July 1, 1871, having under his care the joint charge of Hope church and St. Paul's parish, Manheim. Mr. Heaton presented his resignation to the vestry to take effect March 16, 1874.

He was succeeded by the Rev. Samuel Edwards, who entered upon his rectorate June 1, 1874, and continued in charge until August 31, 1875.

Hope church was without a priest until January 6, 1876, when the Rev. Edward Palmer Brown was inducted into office as rector. The church at Mount Hope was supported almost entirely by summer visitors; and owing to the absence of these from 1877 the work was very much retarded. Because of this, Mr. Brown resigned August 31, 1879.

The parish was without a rector until August, 1881, when the Rev. William B. Thorn assumed charge of Hope church. He remained about a year, when he resigned.

January 11, 1883, the Rev. John Graham began his rectorate, which lasted until the latter part of 1886.

October 27th, 1885, Clement Brooke Grubb and wife Mary Ann Brooke presented Hope church and churchyard to the diocese of Central Pennsylvania. It was given in honor of Harriet Amelia Buckley Grubb founder and patron of Hope church and mother of Clement Brooke Grubb. The deed was presented to the Right Rev. Dr. Mark A. DeWolfe Howe, Bishop of the Diocese and by him placed in the archives of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The Rev. Thomas McClintock was instituted rector of Hope church January 1, 1887. Owing to ill health he was obliged to resign during the conventional year 1887 — 1888.

From this time Hope church was supplied by itinerant clergy until Sunday, March 10, 1889, when the Rev. Henry Clay Pastorious became the spiritual head of the parish.

July 1, 1893, a vestry was elected, which consisted of William Beatty, John Beatty, John Beatty, Jr., John Rowe, Michael Becker, Sr., and John Irwin.

After eight years and five months of faithful service, Mr. Pastorious resigned the charge of Hope church. He officiated for the last time Sunday July 25, 1897.

The parish remained vacant until December 2, 1897, when the Rev. Percy Robottom, rector of St. James' church, Lancaster officiated during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

January 1, 1898, the Rev. Dr. William Francis Shero, then the headmaster of Yeates school, took charge of the services. This arrangement

continued until June, 1898. Thanksgiving Day, 1898, the Rev. Sydney Key Evans assumed charge of Hope church. He had officiated every Sunday since July, 1898, in connection with his work as curate of St. James' church, Lancaster. The main event in his rectorate was the remodelling of the church. July 15, 1903, he resigned to accept a curacy in St. Michael's church, New York city. He subsequently entered the navy as chaplain, in which capacity he is still serving, having recently been promoted to the rank of senior chaplain.

The Rev. E. N. Webber became rector of Hope church in April, 1904, and he remained until the end of 1905. January 14, 1906, he was succeeded by the Rev. John Coulson Skottowe. The large sandstone dwelling adjacent to the church, which at one time was the residence of Mrs. Mary Shippen Parker, great grand-daughter of the first Peter Grubb, was converted into a rectory. He resigned in April, 1912.

Mr. Skottowe's successor, the Rev. Charles C. Kelsey, was in charge of Hope church from May 1, 1912, until September 30 of the same year. He was the first man to be ordained priest in Hope church. That solemn event occurred September 18, 1912.

The Rev. Daniel Albert Blose, Ph. D., succeeded him in the rectorship and resigned May 15, 1915. He was followed by the Rev. Alun Arwel Hughes, who entered upon the cure June 1, 1915. His health failing, he resigned May 1, 1917.

The Rev. George O. Eskins assumed charge in June, 1917. An affection of the eyes made it necessary for him to retire from the active service of the ministry. His connection with Hope church ceased January 1, 1919. The vestry at this time consisted of Stanley MacDonald Smith, William Stuart Morris, William Howard Smith, Alfred Grubb and Miss Daisy E. B. Grubb.

On the Feast of the Circumcision, 1919, the Rev. William Miller Gamble was appointed by the bishop to the cure. He served until September, 1921.

The present rector of the parish is the Rev. Azael Coates. He entered upon his duties October 1, 1921.

As originally constructed, Hope church was a small, unpretentious edifice, the light and dark sandstone used in its construction having been quarried on the Mount Hope estate. In fact, all the twenty-five or thirty buildings on the plantation, including the famous old mansion erected in 1800, as well as the wall which partly surrounds the broad patrimonial acres, are of sandstone, of which there seems to be an inexhaustable supply on the estate. The original cost of Hope church scarcely exceeded two thousand dollars. It was enlarged and beautified during the summer of 1900 by the present patron of the living, Miss Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb, who has spent many times the original cost upon it, making it not only an exquisitely beautiful rural church but a landmark in northern Lancaster county.

The "old church," built in 1848, may easily be distinguished from the addition by its ivy covered walls, the original structure being completely covered.

"See how the ivy climbs and expands  
Over this humble heritage."

The ivy was planted by the sainted Bishop Bowman from a slip which he procured from the vine that rambles over historic Christ church, Oxford, England.

On Saint Luke's Day (October 18, 1900,) Hope church, Mount Hope, was formally re-opened; and the new portions of the building, consisting of chancel, vestry and porch, were solemnly set apart by the bishop

of the diocese, the Right Rev. Ethelbert Talbot, D. D., to the Glory and Service of Almighty God.

A marble tablet on the outer wall states that the chancel was erected as a memorial to the memory of "Clement Brooke Grubb and his wife Mary Brooke Grubb," by Miss Daisy Grubb, grand-daughter of the founder of Hope church.

The chancel, which is modelled after a thirteenth century English chapel, has a handsome timber oak roof. The side windows are lancet-shaped, with high, sloping, recessed sills, all of polished sandstone. The chancel window is magnificent, the subject being "The Ascension." The central panel depicts the Ascent of our Lord into heaven, the Blessed Virgin and St. John gazing after Him on bended knees, while the side panels portray the rest of the disciples, their eyes, too, being fixed on the Lord and Master as He recedes from view. The floor of the chancel is in rich tiling and mosaic. The clergy stalls and bishop's chair are of polished oak, made from special drawings. The altar rail, of brass, is in the form of the passion vine in bloom.

The "glory" of the chancel is the altar and reredos. The altar is of Caen stone, rich in carving, the mensa being of white marble. Three steps of colored marble, lead up to the altar. The reredos is also of Caen stone. It is Gothic, and consists of five panels, the central pinnacle being somewhat higher than the rest. A brass cross adorns the central panel, the other four being filled with emblems of the evangelists, in mosaic. A unique feature of the chancel is, that instead of the usual more or less ugly vestry door, the entrance to the vestry is by means of a finely cut stone arch, which is filled (to the spring of the arch) by a rich oak screen in three sections, the central section forming the door; the upper parts of all three sections being filled with stained glass. The altar, reredos and east window are gifts of Miss Grubb, in memory of her parents.

The communion service, of massive silver, was presented by Mrs. E. Jennie Grubb Smith, of Joanna Furnace, Pa., in memory of her husband, Col. L. Heber Smith. A large almsbasin, in brass, is the gift of the ten grandchildren of Clement Brooke and Mary Brooke Grubb; the bishop's chair was presented by Mrs. Harriet Grubb Irwin in memory of her husband, Stephen B. Irwin. The pulpit, of stone, handsomely carved, with a fine manuscript desk, was the gift of Charles Brooke Grubb, of Lancaster, Pa. The font, which is also of stone, surmounted with a richly wrought brass cover, was the gift of C. Ross Grubb, of Burlington, N. J., in memory of his brother, Adjutant Isaac Parker Grubb, who died in the battle of Petersburg. The eagle lectern was brought from Florence, Italy, by a former worker in the Sunday school, Mrs. Sarah Grubb Ogilvie. The splendid pipe organ was the gift of Miss Daisy E. B. Grubb. The altar cross was also given by her. The candle sticks were given by Miss Helen B. Wickersham, of Washington, D. C., daughter of Louisa C. Wickersham, sister of Mrs. Clement B. Grubb. The vases and bookrest are also memorials, the latter being a gift of the children of the Sunday school. These ornaments were all blessed by the bishop at the time of his official visitation.

In 1902, Miss Daisy E. B. Grubb presented a semi-octagonal baptistery, with memorial windows, to Hope church. A rose window was placed over the main entrance. Both baptistery and rose window are memorials to her parents. At Easter, 1902, the Rev. Sydney Key Evans presented the church with a brass ewer, in memory of his mother. March 30, 1903, Bishop Talbot blessed the new baptistery containing a memorial window to the memory of Ethel Grubb Beall Smith, wife of Dr. George Tucker Smith, U. S. N.; and also the rose window.

The walls of Hope church are richly adorned with memorial tablets. One of these, to the memory of Clement B. and Mary Brooke Grubb, was erected by their daughters, Mrs. M. Lilly Grubb Beall and Miss Daisy Grubb. Another is a memorial to Henry Bates and Harriet Buckley Grubb. Henry Bates Grubb, of Burlington, N. J., presented one as a memorial to his parents, Edward Burd and Euphemia Parker Grubb. Another was presented by Mrs. Mary B. Welsh, of Paris, France, in memory of her mother, Mrs. Mary Shippen Grubb Parker. The fifth was presented "in loving memory of Sarah Elizabeth Ogilvie, daughter of Henry Bates Grubb, of Mount Hope."

Too much credit cannot be given to the present patron of the living, Miss Daisy Grubb, for her munificence in giving to Hope church its present size, form and perfection, and converting a comparatively humble edifice into an enlarged and aesthetic structure widely known for its beauty and architectural attractions.

A priest, who at one time faithfully ministered at her altar, has written of Hope church:

"It is difficult for one who knew the quaint old church, with its white walls and flat white ceiling, there being no chancel or vestry proper, at all to realize, as he stands in the nave of the church to-day, that he is within the same old walls. And as his mind runs back to the day when Hope church was the only Episcopal church within a radius of twenty-five miles (outside of Lancaster), as he remembers that the flourishing parishes of St. Luke's, Lebanon, and St. Paul's, Manheim, are both daughters of Hope church, he feels proud to think that the old mother is once more raising her head. He prays too, that as the years roll on, under the blessing of God, she still may prove a potent though humble influence in the service of her Master."

Bishop Darlington consecrated a new addition to the churchyard in 1915. This land was also a gift from the present patron of the living. At a meeting of the Archdeaconry of Harrisburg held in Hope church October 31, 1922, a magnificent sassafras tree, more than one hundred feet high, growing on the estate near the old mansion, was dedicated in honor of the Right Rev. Dr. James Henry Darlington, bishop of the diocese.

Hope church claims the distinction of being the mother of churches. The flourishing parishes of St. Paul's, Manheim; St. Luke's, Lebanon; and the chapel at old Colebrook Furnace, are the offsprings of the venerable mother parish and owe their existence to the missionary zeal of her clergy.

Alfred Bates Grubb, a member of the first vestry, died February 2, 1885, and was buried in the adjoining churchyard. His sister, Sarah Elizabeth Grubb, married John George Ogilvie. She died November 27, 1884, and was laid to rest in the graveyard of Hope church. She bequeathed a legacy of \$5000.00 to Hope church, which was paid to the parish in 1892, after the death of her daughter, Elizabeth Gibson Norris, wife of Dr. Herbert Norris. The vestry transferred its interest in the bequest to the care of the incorporated trustees of the diocese.

It may be of interest to refer in some detail to the history of the family that has supported Hope Episcopal church from its inception; and it may be well also to recount the part taken by members of that family in the development of an industry that now ranks second to none in the United States.

The name of Grubb appears frequently on the register of the parish church in Stoke Climsland, County of Cornwall, England. In 1663, we find one Henry Grubb residing there. Evidently he embraced the faith of the Friends or Quakers (a name applied in derision) for he was

sued by the Rev. William Pike, priest of that parish, and cast into Tremont Castle, where he remained a prisoner for several years.

In 1679, John Grubb, progenitor of the family that bears the name to-day, took up large tracts of land in what is now Chester county, Pa. From circumstantial evidence, it is believed that this John was a son of Henry, of Stoke Climsland, England. He does not appear to have been a Friend. In all probability, he was an Episcopalian. He married Frances Vane. Previous to his settling in Chester he resided in New Jersey, where he evidently signed the "Conditions and Concessions" law of that state. We next find him settled in Brandywine Hundred, New Castle county, Del. On September 19th, 1682, a survey of six hundred acres was made for him, in conjunction with two natives of Holland, Isaac Savoy and David Hendricks.

This land was on the branches of Naaman's creek, north of the "King's road." Cope, the historian, says: "John Grubb's residence was close by the river at what is now Grubb's Landing, and some have inferred from the latter name that it was the place where he landed on his first arrival in this country. It is not likely that there was any landing there in his life time, and it has not been observed by what title he held land at that point. In that day settlers frequently occupied lands a considerable time before receiving titles thereto."

John Grubb was commissioned a Justice of the Peace May 2nd, 1693. He was made a member of the Provincial legislature of Pennsylvania in 1694, and again in 1698. He was an extensive owner of land in Pennsylvania and Delaware. He died in March, 1708, aged 56 years, and was buried in the old Swedes' graveyard at Wilmington, Del. He was the father of nine children. Of these Samuel and his brother Peter were interested in the manufacture of iron in what is now Lebanon county, Pa.

Peter Grubb the first brother of Samuel and son of John and Frances Vane Grubb, was doubtless quite young at his father's death. Considerable interest attaches to his personal history on account of his having been a pioneer in the manufacture of iron and the founder of a plant that has since become immensely valuable. He was doubtless born at Marcus Hook, Pa., and is supposed to have removed, with his mother, to Bradford township, Pa. When old enough, he learned the trade of mason, probably with his brother Samuel. He first appeared as a single freeman on the assessment lists of Kennett township in 1726. Peter Grubb was admitted into membership with the Friends 11 mo. 3rd, 1731, and on the same date made known his intention of marrying Martha Wall. Owing to a disease then prevalent and with which he became afflicted, the marriage was not consummated until 2 mo. 12th, 1732, at Cain meeting. Peter Grubb was assessed in East Cain township in 1735. After that, his name does not appear on the county assessment lists.

It is claimed that Peter Grubb was the first to discover the vast deposits of iron ore at Cornwall in Lebanon county, Pa. In an effort to present things in their true historical light, we must, in all fairness, state that there seems to be no evidence of who first discovered the presence of the ore. Peter Grubb was the first to appreciate its value. The Indians knew of the strange earth to be found there; and, when the first white settlers gave them iron, the aborigines quickly discovered what to them seemed miraculous. The mysterious dirt would cling to their hatchets, and steel beads would hold fast to the ore. The savages regarded this magnetic property with awe and concealed it from the whites. On the 8th of May, 1732, John, Thomas and Richard Penn, for the sum of five hundred pounds money of Pennsylvania, granted a

warrant of 5000 acres, in which the yet virgin hills were included, to Joseph Turner, who afterwards assigned it to William Allen. William Allen by agreement dated April 5th 1734, sold 300 of the 5000 acres of land called for in the warrant, to Peter Grubb for the sum of one hundred and thirty-five pounds. This tract of land was surveyed April 8th, 1734. On November 28th and 29th, 1737, William Allen by deeds of lease and release conveyed the said tract of 300 acres to Peter Grubb his heirs and assigns in fee, who procured a patent for it from the Proprietaries November 30th, 1737. Since this grant did not entirely embrace the ore hills, Peter Grubb was granted a warrant by the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania December 2nd, 1737, for two tracts of land (142½ acres) contiguous to the 300 acre tract, thus making the whole tract contain 442½ acres of land. On November 2, 1734, he had taken out a warrant for a tract of land adjoining the above described tracts on the west and north, containing 195 acres. This made him owner of the famous Cornwall ore hills, hills that contained almost pure magnetic iron ore.

We venture to assert that the purchase of these lands, foremost among the natural resources of Pennsylvania, was the best bargain Peter Grubb made; and it is safe to believe that William Allen, who did not like the barren hilly look of the property, was not aware that a princely revenue lay beneath that sterile soil. Peter Grubb, his curiosity moved by various rumors, dug up some of the ore and learned from an expert in Philadelphia that his ground was half iron.

We are unable to state, with certainty, the exact time when he embarked in the manufacture of iron in Lancaster county. Hazard intimates that he commenced operations as early as 1728, but we can find no proof of this. A tradition in his family says that he built a furnace in 1735, about one mile from the site of Cornwall Furnace, and cinders were pointed out to the late H. C. Grittinger of the Lebanon County Historical Society about twenty years ago. This would seem to sustain the tradition. But this supposed furnace was undoubtedly a bloomery and may be regarded as Peter Grubb's first iron enterprise. That this furnace, or bloomery, was an experimental affair, is evident from the fact that it was located on the bank of a small spring or run that was entirely too insignificant to furnish water power to run the bellows, which in all probability was worked by hand. In 1739, he leased the Cornwall ore lands to Samuel Grubb and Joseph Taylor. "Ye leace" dated September 22nd, 1739, was made by Peter Grubb of Lancaster county, ironmaster, to Samuel Grubb of East Bradford, Chester county, mason, and Joseph Taylor of Kennett township, wheelwright and blacksmith, on 300 acres in Lebanon township for mining all metals and minerals except iron. They were to employ five men after two years, and more if they pleased. The product was to be divided into thirty-two parts, of which the Grubbs were to have fifteen each and Taylor two. Joseph Taylor died August 2nd, 1740.

The earliest recorded evidence of Peter Grubb's connection with iron making in Lancaster county (now Lebanon) is believed to be contained in this lease. It is also stated in the old document that Peter Grubb "intends to build an iron furnace" on lands adjacent to that leased to Samuel Grubb and Joseph Taylor. That this furnace was undoubtedly Cornwall, planned in 1739 and the first blast made in 1742, and named in memory of the county in England from whence came Peter Grubb's ancestors. It is one of the oldest furnaces in the country and was in operation until a few years ago. It is supposed that Hopewell Forge was built about the same time.

Peter Grubb was not only fortunate in his discovery of this iron ore deposit but he also found in close proximity an abundance of limestone

and a never failing stream of water, which afforded power to blow a furnace at the edge of the ore deposit. The capacity of Cornwall furnace when erected was about five or six tons a week.

The success of the enterprise being assured, a company was formed to carry on the iron works. A lease was executed June 18th, 1745, between "Peter Grubb of the County of Chester, yeoman, of the one part; and John Crosby, Esq., Caleb Pearce, Peter Dicks, Jacob Carter, John Pennell, John Crosby, Jr. George Churchman, Samuel Grubb, Daniel Walker of Chester county, Peter Worrall of Lancaster county, and Ebenezer Curry and John Wallace of Philadelphia, partners and company of the iron works called Cornwall Furnace and Hopewell Forge, of the other part."

In this indenture, still in the possession of the Grubb family, it is stated that Peter Grubb leased 637 acres in Lebanon township whereon the furnace was erected and 218 acres of the two other tracts in Warwick township whereon the forge was erected, the whole to a company enumerated in the foregoing paragraph for twenty years, at an annual rental of 250 pounds. The first payment was to be made June 18th, 1746. It was agreed that Peter Grubb should have the use of the soil of part of one of the tracts whereon the furnace was erected, allowing the company to cut and "cole" timber (converting it into charcoal) and dig and search for iron ore. Peter reserved the right to dig and search for other minerals and to use the stream above the furnace bellows if he should have occasion to erect works for smelting any other ores. Four or more persons within two months, were to appraise the furnace, forge, wheels, bellows, "colehouses" (charcoal-houses), etc., that they might be delivered up in as good condition at the end of the lease, either party to pay as it might be better or worse, though Peter Grubb should not pay for other furnaces and forges which they might erect for their own advantage.

In Israel Acrelius's History of New Sweden, written about 1756, appears the following: "Cornwall or Grubb's iron works are in Lancaster county. The mine is rich and abundant, forty feet deep, commencing two feet under the earth's surface. The ore is somewhat mixed with sulphur and copper. Peter Grubb was its discoverer. Here there is a furnace which makes twenty-four tons of iron a week and keeps six forges regularly at work — two of his own, two belonging to Germans in the neighborhood, and two in Maryland. The pig iron is carried to the Susquehanna river, thence to Maryland, and finally to England. The bar iron is sold mostly in the country and in the interior towns, the remainder in Philadelphia. It belongs to the heirs of the Grubb estate, but is now rented to Gurrit and Co."

Peter Grubb's first wife, who was Martha Bates Wall, widow of James Wall and daughter of Jeremiah and Mary Bates, died in 1740. In the records of Concord Monthly meeting we find that Peter Grubb of Lancaster county and Hannah Marshall of Concord, were married 12 mo. 10th, 1741-1742, at Concord meeting. Hannah was the widow of Thomas Marshall and daughter of Benjamin and Ann Mendenhall of Concord. She was born 6 mo. 11th, 1696. It is supposed that Peter Grubb moved to Wilmington, Del. before 1747. Certain real estate transactions on record seem to indicate that he continued to reside in that place until his death, which occurred in 1754.

Peter Grubb dying intestate, his property was divided between his two sons, Curtis and Peter Grubb, the former receiving two-thirds and the latter one-third. After the Revolution, Curtis assigned to his son, Peter, one-sixth of his interest; and this share passing into the hands of Robert Coleman, laid the foundations of family wealth which the Lebanon and Paris Colemans and the Aldens enjoy.

The history of the Cornwall iron hills is fraught with thrilling interest and filled with curious chapters. Many noted personages move through the story. There is the glamour of dazzling riches; the conflict of blood relatives where financial interests are at stake; the loss of untold wealth because some old worthy, long since gathered unto his fathers, made a mistake of one word in the drawing up of a deed; of plots of inheritance and descent, of success and failure, love, estrangement and poverty. It all came about in this manner:

When Peter Grubb the third, son of Curtis and grandson of Peter the first, and his wife Mary, to satisfy an obligation, sold May 9th, 1786, their one-sixth interest in the Cornwall iron ore hills to Robert Coleman, his heirs and assigns forever, they inserted in the deed this provision: "Saving and excepting unto the said Peter Grubb, Jr., his heirs, and assigns, the right, liberty and privilege, at all time hereafter, of entering upon the premises and of digging, raising and hauling away his sufficient quantity of iron ore for the supply of any furnace at the election of Peter Grubb, Jr., his heirs and assigns." This right was subsequently sold to George Ege, through whom it passed to the proprietors of the Robesonia Iron Company by whom the right is held and exercised to-day.

In the deed involving this grant, the grantor, over his signature, made the declaration that the provisions shall hold good "as long as water runs and grass grows." Out of this, in later years, grew a lawsuit which was only recently decided. The privilege to use ore for one furnace was so indefinite that, as the decades slipped by, the "oven furnace" grew from a diminutive charcoal affair to the great structure owned by Ferguson, White & Co., and which is now the basis of the Robesonia Iron Company. The owners of the hills disputed the right to take more than ore enough to supply the original furnace. After long litigation, the courts decided that the privilege was limited only by the capacity of a furnace. To-day the clause holds good, and no matter how great the capacity of the modern furnace may become the one designated by the heirs of Peter Grubb, the third, must be supplied free of cost with all the ore it can consume. The Robesonia Iron Company, which has a modern furnace plant at Robesonia, Berks county, Pa., is now getting its ore under this ancient and curiously worded document.

In the writing of a deed for a certain other sixth interest in the ore hills, it had evidently been the intention of the grantor to have incorporated a clause similar to the one now enjoyed by the Robesonia company, but some one, no one knows who, inserted the innocent adjective "charcoal." In those days all furnaces were operated by charcoal, but to-day its use makes the operation of a furnace prohibitively expensive. Mount Hope Furnace, when it used charcoal, enjoyed this free ore privilege, but to-day the plant is nothing but a ruin, and millions of dollars were lost because of the word "charcoal" in the deed of a century ago.

The Cornwall ore mine riches figured in the courts for many years, and during the trial of the celebrated case of R. W. and W. Coleman against R. and G. D. Coleman, wherein it was charged by the plaintiffs that the defendants had carried away more ore than they were entitled to, the public was informed, for the first time, of the tremendous volume of ore which had already been mined at low cost. Then it was disclosed that the ore was so rich that a little more than two tons of it yielded a ton of iron.

On October 22nd, 1784, Jacob Graybill conveyed to Peter Grubb the second, son of Peter the great pioneer discoverer of the Cornwall iron hills and builder of the Cornwall iron furnace, a tract of land contain-

ing 212½ acres, situated in Rapho and Penn townships, Lancaster county, Pa. Upon this he built a charcoal furnace in 1784-1785, which he called Mount Hope. The furnace stands to the east of the famous mansion built in 1800, by his son Henry Bates Grubb. It is located at the foot of a picturesque ravine on the banks of the Chickasalunga (Big Chikis creek.) It is set in the foothills of the South mountain, about four or five miles east of Cornwall Furnace. After being operated continuously and successfully as a charcoal furnace by the Grubb family for a round century, it went out of blast in 1885.

The present owner of the Mount Hope Furnace and estate, which comprises more than three thousand acres of land, is Miss Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb, a lineal descendant of Henry Grubb of Cornwall, England. She traces her descent as follows:

- 1.—Henry Grubb resided in Stoke Climsland, Cornwall, England in 1663.
- 2.—John Grubb, son of Henry of Stoke Climsland, settled at Upland, Chester county, Pa., before 1679. He married Frances Vane. He died in the winter of 1707-1708.
- 3.—Peter Grubb, the first, son of John and Frances Vane Grubb, married Martha Bates Wall 2 mo. 10th, 1732. She died in 1740. He married the second time Hannah Mendenhall Marshall 12 mo. 10th, 1741-1742. Peter Grubb died in 1754.
- 4.—Peter Grubb the second, son of Peter and Martha Bates Grubb, is said to have been born at Cornwall, Pa., September 8th, 1740. He died at Hopewell Forge, in Warwick township, Pa., January 17th, 1786. He was married November 28th, 1771, at "Tinian" the seat of James Burd, Esq., in Lancaster county, Pa., to Mary Shippen Burd, who was born at Shippensburg, January 13th, 1753, and died, at Hopewell Forge, February 23rd, 1774, at the early age of twenty-one. She was a daughter of James and Sarah Shippen Burd. Peter Grubb built Mount Hope charcoal furnace. He was colonel of the Eighth Battalion in the War of the Revolution.
- 5.—Henry Bates Grubb, son of Peter the second and Mary Shippen Burd Grubb, was born at Hopewell Forge, February 6th, 1774, seventeen days before the death of his young mother, and died at Mount Hope Furnace, March 9th, 1823. He was married at Pine Grove, Pa., June 18th, 1805, to Ann Carson, daughter of John Carson, ironmaster of Dauphin county, Pa. She died October 19th, 1806, in her 26th year, leaving one child, Henry Carson Grubb. Henry Bates Grubb was married the second time December 1st, 1808, to Harriet Amelia Buckley, daughter of Daniel and Sarah Brooke Buckley, of Competence Farm Pequea, Lancaster county, Pa. She will long be remembered for her beneficence in founding Hope Episcopal church at Mount Hope, Pa. To this union were born seven children, of which the second was
- 6.—Clement Brooke Grubb, born January 9th, 1815. He died October 31st, 1889. He was married February 27th, 1841 to Mary Ann Brooke, daughter of Charles Brooke, ironmaster. The fruit of this union were:
- 7.—Harriet Brooke Grubb born October 31st, 1842. She was married to Stephen B. Irwin of Philadelphia, April 8th, 1863. She died March 22nd, 1906.
- 8.—Charles Brooke Grubb was born October 6th, 1844, in Lancaster, Pa. He was graduated from Princeton college. He was a partner of his father in the iron business, succeeding on the latter's death to the different furnaces and his father's interest in the Cornwall ore banks and the Conestoga ore bank. He died unmarried November 12th, 1911, and was buried in Woodward Hill cemetery, Lancaster, Pa.

- 9.—Mary Lilly Brooke Grubb was born May 22, 1846. She was married April 3rd, 1872, to Joseph Bond Beall of New York. She died October 14th, 1916.
- 10.—Ella Jane Grubb was born October 18th, 1848. She was married to Col L. Heber Smith June 17th, 1868. He owned and operated an iron furnace at Joanna, Pa. She died February 22nd, 1920.
- 11.—Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb present owner of the Mount Hope estate and patron of Hope Episcopal church, Mount Hope, Pa.



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